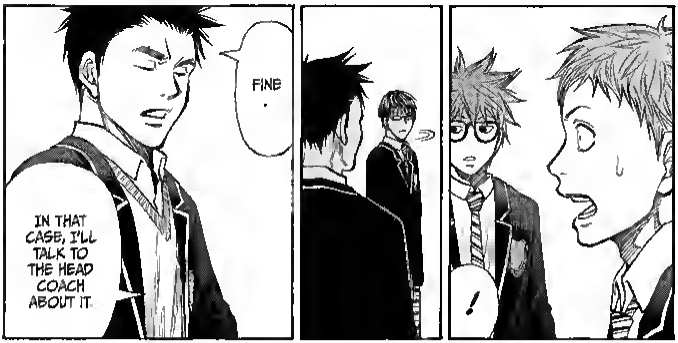
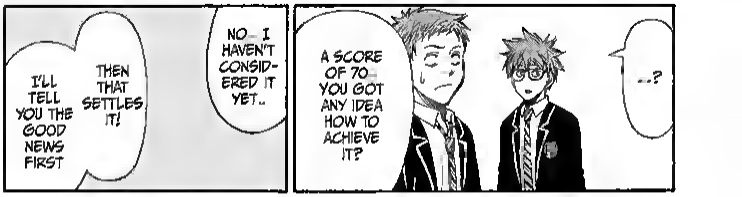
ROBOTX
LASERBEAM
Round 12: Motivation

VERY WELL.
AS OSANAI SUGGESTED ...
...IF ROBO CAN GET A SCORE OF 70 BY THE TIME OF THE TRAINING CAMP...
...THEN HE CAN JOIN US.


FINE.
IN THAT CASE, I'LL TALK TO THE HEAD COACH ABOUT IT.
!

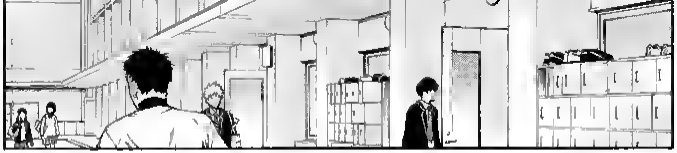
EVEN IF THERE ARE CONDITIONS TO IT. I CAN'T BELIEVE HE GOT KURODA-SAN TO BEND THE RULES LIKE THAT
..THIS MEANS YOU'VE GOT A SHOT AT BECOMING A REGULAR, RIGHT?!
THIS IS INCRED-IBLE, ROBO!
I MEAN, IT ALL DEPENDS ON HOW YOU PROGRESS FROM NOW. BUT..
...THAT'S EVEN MORE SHOCKING THAN ANY NOVEL LESSONS OR ORIGINAL SWING THEORIES.
TO SOMEONE WITH GOLF EXPERIENCE
BUT THE FACTS OF THE MATTER ARE JUST THAT CONVINCING.
HIS FUNDAMENTALS HAVE BEEN FORGED TO PERFECTION OVER YEARS OF PRACTICE.
I'D LIKE TO ASK HIM FOR POINTERS SOMEDAY
STILL, WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS ROBO'S DAD TO HAVE TAUGHT HIM THAT?
"AND MY DAD TOLD ME IT WAS BETTER THAT WAY"
HE MUST BE A MASTER HIMSELF!

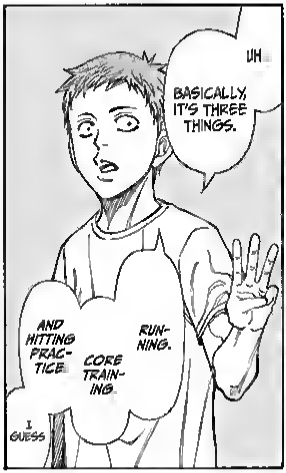
HEY! THERE YOU ARE! LEAVING SO SOON?!
RION-SAN
HA! YOU'D BETTER START USING "SENPAI" FROM NOW ON.
I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU.
I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS.


...?
A SCORE OF 70... YOU GOT ANY IDEA HOW TO ACHIEVE IT?
NO... I HAVEN'T CONSIDERED IT YET..
THEN THAT SETTLES IT!
I'LL TELL YOU THE GOOD NEWS FIRST

JOIN ME ON THE NEXT PRACTICE ROUND.
I'M GOING TO TEACH YOU ALL ABOUT GOLF.

DON'T GET ME WRONG IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T LIKE GEN-SAN.
BUT I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT HE'S JUST A BIT TOO STUBBORN
WHAT ?!
I APPRECIATE ALL THIS, BUT...
..ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD ?
SINCE I WAS THE ONE WHO PROPOSED IT, I SHOULD BE THE ONE TO HELP YOU OUT.
...TO IS STILL A PRETTY DEMANDING CONDITION
AND EVEN IF IT WAS ONLY TO PERSUADE THAT OBSTINATE MULE...
Wow!!
HUH ?!
ARE YOU SURE ?!
SURE
AND WHILE I'M AT IT, I MIGHT AS WELL LOOK AFTER YOU TOO, TOMOYA.
わはは。
WAH HA HA!
Even if you are a little weird
BESIDES ALL THAT, I HONESTLY LIKE YOU.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. PRACTICE ROUNDS ARE ALWAYS DONE IN PAIRS ANYWAY.
PAT
PAT
WELL, THEN.
I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU.
THANKS!

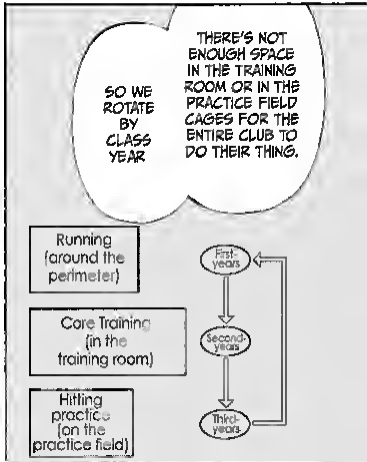



UH...
BASICALLY, IT'S THREE THINGS.
I GUESS
AND HITTING PRAC-TICE.
CORE TRAIN-ING.
RUN-NING.

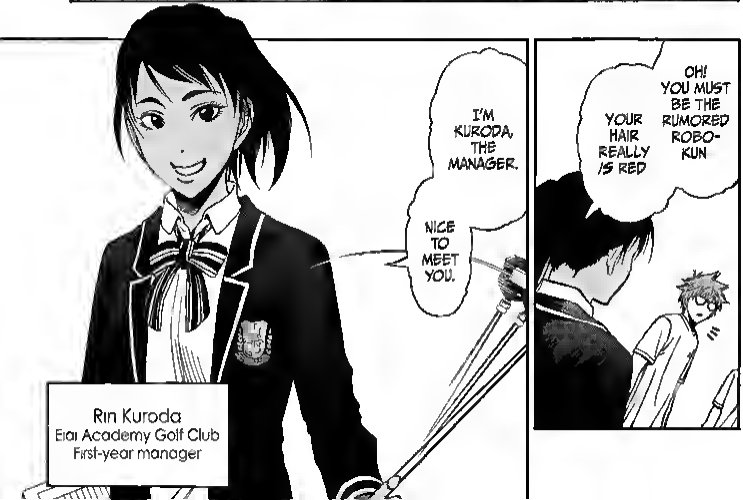
HEY, TOMOYA.
WHAT'S GOLF CLUB PRACTICE LIKE?

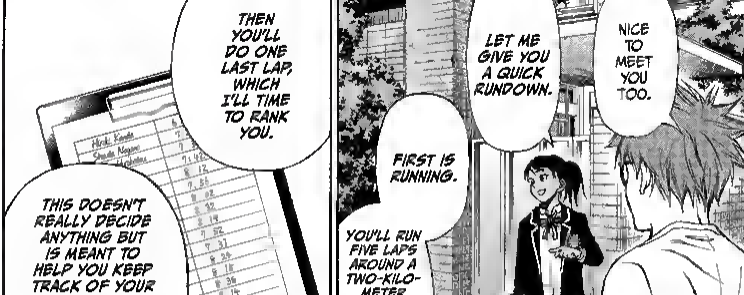
TODAY, THERE'S NO CORE TRAINING, SO WE ALL GO HOME AFTER WE'VE DONE OUR RUNNING EXERCISE.
ALSO, TWICE A WEEK WE DO HITTING PRACTICE AT THE DRIVING RANGE NEARBY.

AND THAT'S A TYPICAL WEEK FOR YOU.
ON THE WEEKENDS, WE DO A PRACTICE ROUND OF GOLF


THERE'S NOT ENOUGH SPACE IN THE TRAINING ROOM OR IN THE PRACTICE FIELD CAGES FOR THE ENTIRE CLUB TO DO THEIR THING.
SO WE ROTATE BY CLASS YEAR
Running (around the perimeter)
Core Training (in the training room)
Hitting practice (on the practice field)
First-years
Second-years
Third-years

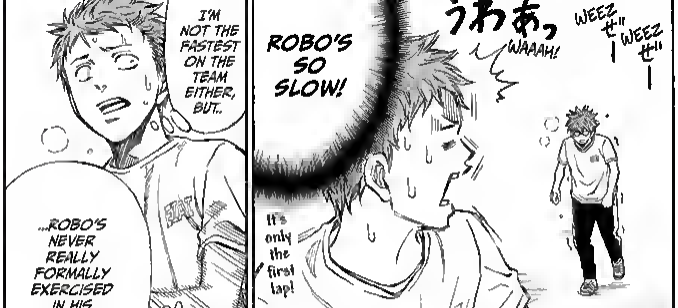
IS THIS TENSION
...JUST AS RION SENPAI PREDICTED?
I SEE.
STILL ...
OKAY, LET'S GET STARTED!
EVERYONE HERE?


I'M KURODA, THE MANAGER.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
OH! YOU MUST BE THE RUMORED ROBO-KUN
YOUR HAIR REALLY IS RED
Rin Kuroda
Eiai Academy Golf Club
First-year manager

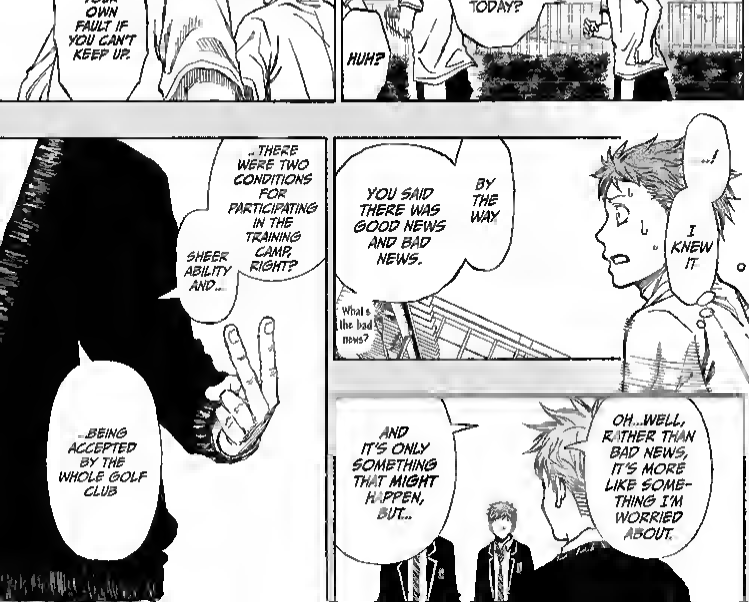

NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.
LET ME GIVE YOU A QUICK RUNDOWN.
FIRST IS RUNNING.
YOU'LL RUN FIVE LAPS AROUND A TWO-KILO-METER COURSE FOR A TOTAL OF TEN KILO-METERS
THEN YOU'LL DO ONE LAST LAP, WHICH I'LL TIME TO RANK YOU.
THIS DOESN'T REALLY DECIDE ANYTHING BUT IS MEANT TO HELP YOU KEEP TRACK OF YOUR PROGRESS AND PREVENT YOU FROM SLACKING IN YOUR EFFORTS.

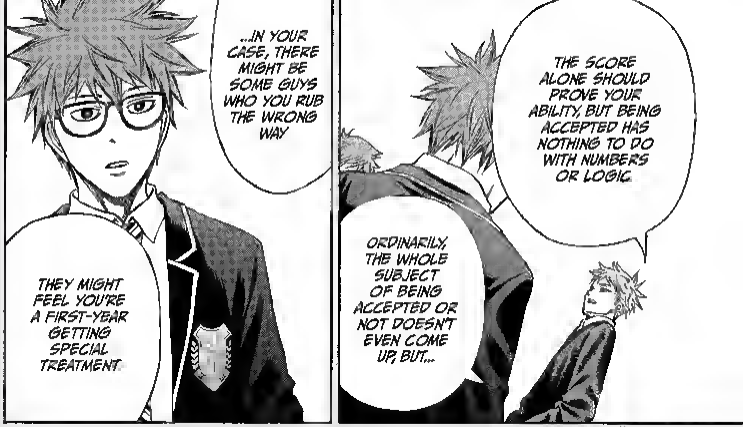
I SEE UNDER-STOOD
THAT'S A PRETTY DRY RE-SPONSE!
IS THAT WHY THEY CALL YOU ROBO ?!
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET GOING!
ON YOUR MARKS, GET SET...
GO!

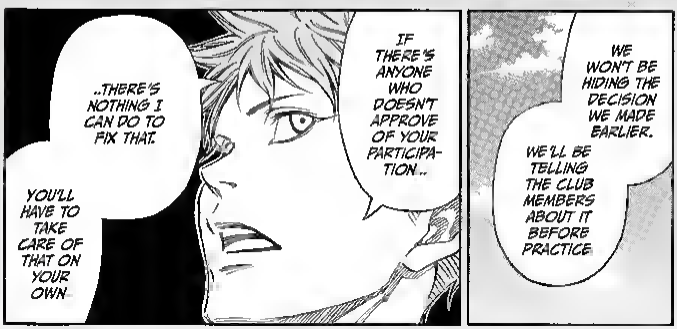
TP
TP
TP
TP


I'M NOT THE FASTEST ON THE TEAM EITHER, BUT..
...ROBO'S NEVER REALLY FORMALLY EXERCISED IN HIS LIFE...
ROBO'S SO SLOW!
うわぁっ
WAAAH!
WEEZ"
WEEZ"
It's only the first lap!

DON'T LOOK AT ME.
IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT IF YOU CAN'T KEEP UP.
HEY... IS IT JUST ME, OR IS THE PACE FASTER THAN USUAL TODAY?
HUH?
BUT ANYWAY


...THERE WERE TWO CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE TRAINING CAMP, RIGHT?
SHEER ABILITY AND..
...BEING ACCEPTED BY THE WHOLE GOLF CLUB
BY THE WAY
YOU SAID THERE WAS GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS.
What's the bad news?
...!
I KNEW IT
AND IT'S ONLY SOMETHING THAT MIGHT HAPPEN, BUT...
OH...WELL, RATHER THAN BAD NEWS, IT'S MORE LIKE SOMETHING I'M WORRIED ABOUT.


...IN YOUR CASE, THERE MIGHT BE SOME GUYS WHO YOU RUB THE WRONG WAY
THEY MIGHT FEEL YOU'RE A FIRST-YEAR GETTING SPECIAL TREATMENT
THE SCORE ALONE SHOULD PROVE YOUR ABILITY, BUT BEING ACCEPTED HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH NUMBERS OR LOGIC.
ORDINARILY, THE WHOLE SUBJECT OF BEING ACCEPTED OR NOT DOESN'T EVEN COME UP, BUT...

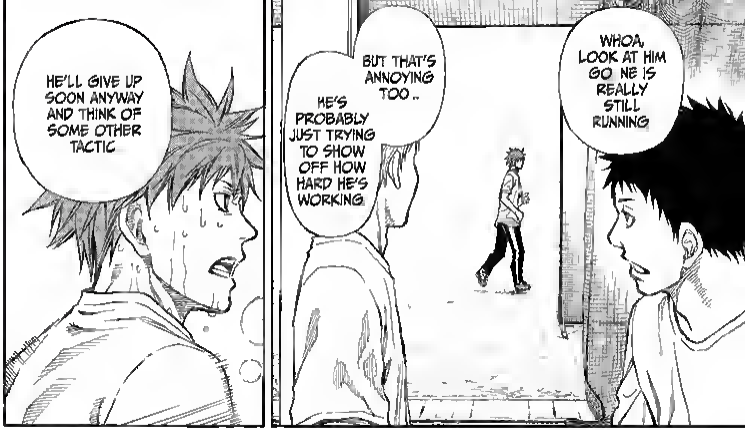

..THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO FIX THAT.
YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF THAT ON YOUR OWN.
IF THERE'S ANYONE WHO DOESN'T APPROVE OF YOUR PARTICIPATION..
WE WON'T BE HIDING THE DECISION WE MADE EARLIER.
WE'LL BE TELLING THE CLUB MEMBERS ABOUT IT BEFORE PRACTICE.

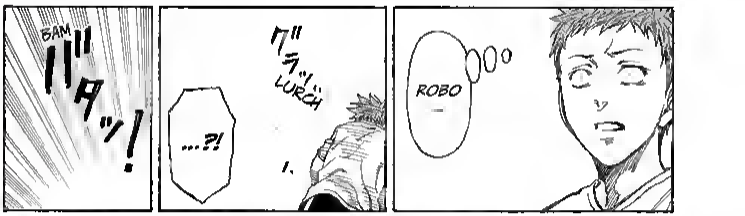
HUFF
WEEZ...
DRIP
DRIP

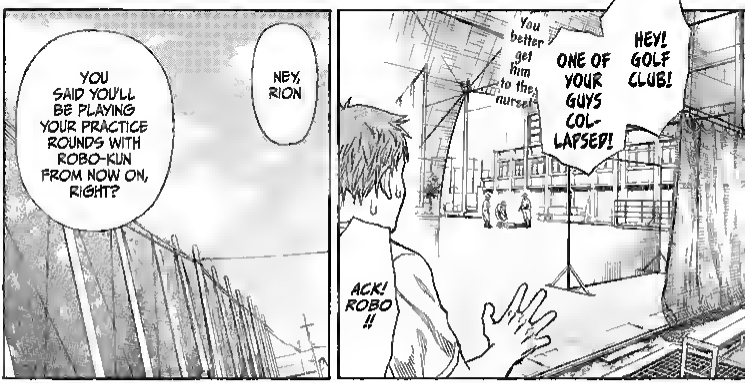
BUMP
YOU WERE ROCK-BOTTOM LAST, BUT YOU DID COMPLETE THE RUN.
GOOD JOB!
BEEP
ALL RIGHT, YOU'VE REACHED THE GOAL!
GOOD WORK!
HUFF! PANT *"
HEY!
WHAT?
IT'S TRUE.
SHEESH, YOU TOOK FOREVER!
THAT ATE INTO OUR HITTING PRACTICE TIME.
THUMP
HEY!
ROBO!
...
THEN..
I DON'T CARE HOW GOOD AT GOLF YOU ARE— THERE'S NO WAY WE'RE GOING TO ACCEPT YOU.
HOW CAN SOMEONE WHO WASTES OUR TIME LIKE THIS PARTICIPATE IN THE TRAINING CAMP?

HUH?
I SHOULD MAKE IT SO THAT I'M NOT INCONVENIENCING YOU, IS THAT IT?
IF YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO BE THE ONLY FIRST-YEAR ALLOWED AS AN EXCEPTION TO TRAINING CAMP
IT'S WHAT THE REST OF US ARE DOING.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING
I SEE...
UNDER-STOOD.
NOT TO SAY THAT ALONE WILL GUARANTEE WE ACCEPT YOU.
...THEN THE LEAST YOU SHOULD DO IS BE THE FASTEST AMONG THE FIRST-YEARS IN OUR RUNS, DON'T YOU THINK?

MAY I KEEP RUNNING?
HUH...?
RUNNING AND CORE TRAINING ARE BOTH NECESSARY, SO YOU CAN'T STAY OUT HERE, NO.
BUT HITTING PRACTICE IS SELF-DIRECTED, SO YOU COULD RUN AGAIN DURING THAT TIME.
But once the outside circuit will be used by the upperclassmen for their own running, please stick to the open field.
UNDERSTOOD
BUT YOU...!
ALL RIGHT, SO FIRST IS CORE TRAINING, YES?
THAT'S BESIDE THE POINT...!
トキ
EDMP
...!
KLANK
PSCHT
KLANK
My glasses will get in the way.
From now on, I'll take them off during practice.
MUR
MUR

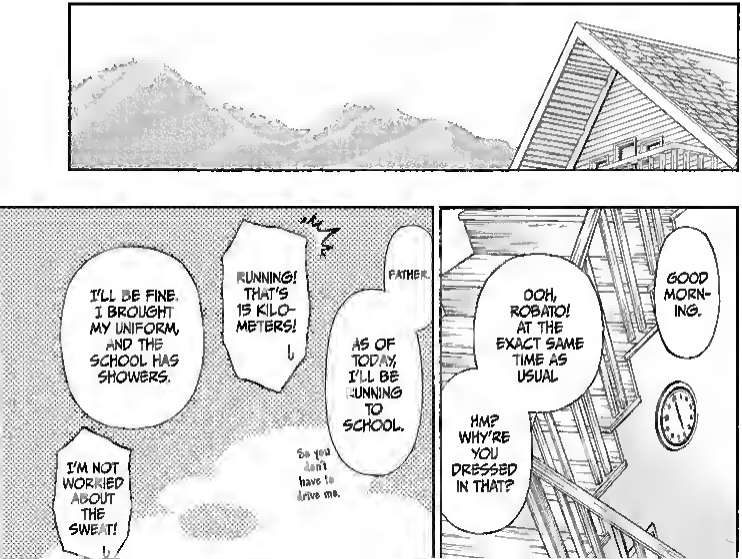

HE'LL GIVE UP SOON ANYWAY AND THINK OF SOME OTHER TACTIC
HE'S PROBABLY JUST TRYING TO SHOW OFF HOW HARD HE'S WORKING.
BUT THAT'S ANNOYING TOO..
WHOA, LOOK AT HIM GO HE IS REALLY STILL RUNNING


BAM
LURCH
...?!
ROBO

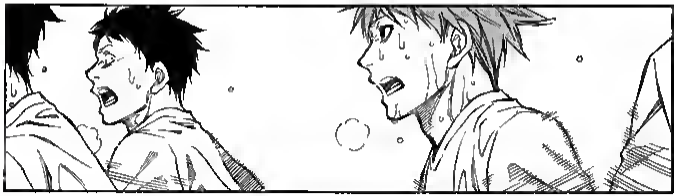

YOU SAID YOU'LL BE PLAYING YOUR PRACTICE ROUNDS WITH ROBO-KUN FROM NOW ON, RIGHT?
HEY, RION
HEY! GOLF CLUB!
ONE OF YOUR GUYS COL-LAPSED!
You better get him to the nurse!
ACK! ROBO !!

IT FEELS LIKE HE'S REALLY TAKING IT SERIOUSLY, SO IT'S NOT LIKE I'M WORRIED OR ANYTHING, BUT...
YEAH
...?
EIAI

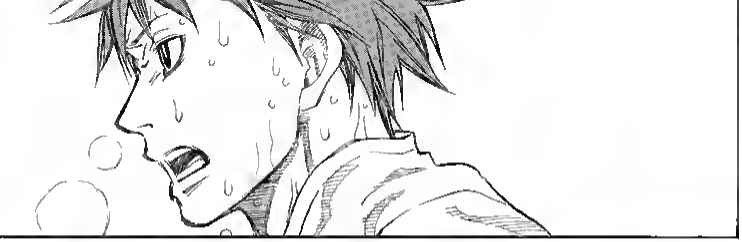
YEAH.
MAYBE.
YOU'RE EVEN NASTIER THAN GEN-SAN, YOU KNOW THAT?
..WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT THAN GETTING TO...
SAYING STUFF LIKE BEING ACCEPTED BY THE OTHERS ..


I'LL BE FINE. I BROUGHT MY UNIFORM, AND THE SCHOOL HAS SHOWERS.
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT THE SWEAT!
RUNNING! THAT'S 15 KILOMETERS!
FATHER.
AS OF TODAY, I'LL BE RUNNING TO SCHOOL.
So you don't have to drive me.
GOOD MORNING.
OOH, ROBATO! AT THE EXACT SAME TIME AS USUAL
HMP WHY'RE YOU DRESSED IN THAT?

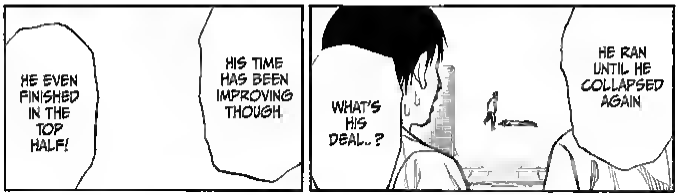
TMP



THUMP
HEY, GOLF CLUB! HE COLLAPSED AGAIN!

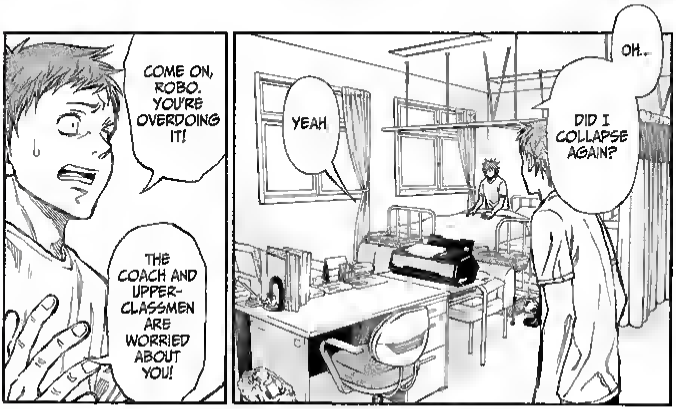


Why the heck does this keep happening to me?!
HEY, GOLF CLUB! IT HAPPENED AGAIN!
THUMP


HE EVEN FINISHED IN THE TOP HALF!
HIS TIME HAS BEEN IMPROVING THOUGH.
WHAT'S HIS DEAL..?
HE RAN UNTIL HE COLLAPSED AGAIN

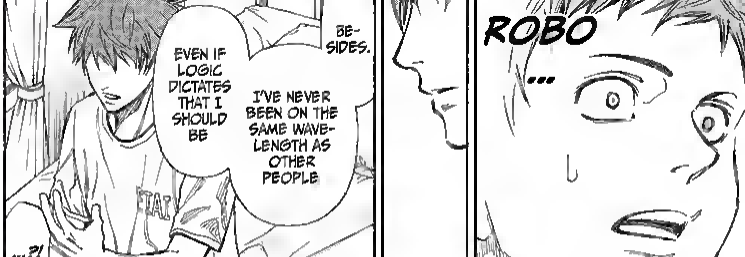
NURSE'S OFFICE
SHUT UP. I'M USING THE TOILET.
WAIT, KAZAMA! WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
...!

110
BLINK


COME ON, ROBO. YOU'RE OVERDOING IT!
THE COACH AND UPPER-CLASSMEN ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
YEAH
OH..
DID I COLLAPSE AGAIN?

YES! THAT'S WHY YOU JOINED THE GOLF CLUB...
...AND ARE OVERDOING THE RUNNING TO BECOME A REGULAR, ISN'T IT?
YOUR REMATCH AGAINST YOZAN-KUN .. YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUSH IT.
RUSH IT?
ANYBODY CAN SEE THAT!
AM I REALLY?
LISTEN, ROBO

I REALIZED THAT I WANTED TO PLAY GOLF.
THAT'S WHY I JOINED THE GOLF CLUB.
YOU'RE WRONG, TOMOYA.
I'M NOT RUSHING OR OVERDOING ANYTHING.
IF I DIDN'T LIKE IT, I WOULDN'T BE DOING IT IN THE FIRST PLACE.
I'M DOING IT BECAUSE I WANT TO.
HUH ?!
MY GOAL IS MY REMATCH AGAINST YOZAN-KUN, BUT..
THAT'S NOT WHAT MOTI-VATES ME
WHEN I PLAYED THAT MATCH WITH YOZAN-KUN, I REALIZED THAT GOLF MIGHT BE FUN.
WHEN I WENT TO HIT ON THAT COURSE WITH RION-SAN, I REALIZED I WANTED TO TRY HITTING THE BALL IN A LOT MORE DIFFERENT WAYS.


BE-SIDES,
EVEN IF LOGIC DICTATES THAT I SHOULD BE
I'VE NEVER BEEN ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH AS OTHER PEOPLE
...?!
ROBO
...

SO I'M NOT EVEN THINKING ABOUT HOW TO GET PEOPLE TO ACCEPT ME.
...THERE'S NO WAY I CAN COMPRE-HEND IT.
AND IF IT'S NOT ABOUT LOGIC...
RION-SAN SAID THAT HAVING THE OTHERS ACCEPT ME DOESN'T COME DOWN TO NUMBERS OR LOGIC.

SINCE JOINING AND DECIDING THAT I WANT TO PLAY GOLF, I'VE BEEN DOING IT IN EARNEST.
AND SO I'VE BEEN RUNNING IN EARNEST.
THAT'S ALL.

...IN THE TEN KILO-METER UNTIMED RUN!!
THAT GUY..
...JUST GOT SECOND PLACE BEHIND KAZAMA...
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
HAAH!
HAAH!
ARE
ALL RIGHT, HERE COMES THE LAST LAP!
READY? SET...
WHAT THE HELL'S YOUR DEAL?!
I SAID THAT EVEN IF YOU GOT FIRST PLACE~
YEAH.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GIVE ME YOUR APPROVAL
BECAUSE I JUST DECIDED FOR MYSELF
...!
...TODAY MY GOAL IS TO BE NUMBER ONE.
GO!
DSH
TO BE CONTINUED...